

May we, God helping us, be part of the answer, not part of the problem. —Peter Marshall



Haven Happenings

Dr. Brenda & Joe Wilbanks, Founders

The Haven Animal Care Shelter

Winter 2009

Volume 4, Issue 2

Christmas For the Animals: Dec. 12th

What is The Haven?

We are a private foundation formed by Dr. Brenda Wilbanks and her husband, Joe Wilbanks, resting on seven acres just east of Lubbock, TX. The Haven is a non-profit, no kill sanctuary for animals. In addition to many special needs dogs and cats, the Haven also shelters a wide variety of adoptable pets who are in need of loving homes. Our goals include:

*Saving the lives of helpless animals... one life at a time.

*Educating people to be responsible pet owners... one person at a time.

*Improving the lives of children through our pet therapy program... one child at a time.

*Changing the world to a kinder and more peaceful place... one day at a time.

A big thanks to the groups who have come out recently to help us:

Women's Service Organization., Miller Girls, Texas Tech Women's Water Polo Team, Raider Sisters for Christ, TTU Accounting Leadership, South Plains College, TTU Honors College, TTU Speech, TTU HSC, Delta Sigma Pi, Chi Tau Epsilon, HOSA, TTU Center for Undergraduate Research

**THANK YOU,
VOLUNTEERS!!**

Its our Annual Lights at the Haven Open House! What a busy year we've had! Hard to believe it is once again time for our annual Open House! This year's festivities will be **Saturday, December 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.** As always, we will feature our star "drive-thru" attraction: the Lights at the Haven! Our animals have been busily decorating their temporary homes, with the assistance of many dedicated volunteers, to make sure you enjoy a truly festive display. As always, **admission is free, but donations are always welcome!**

But why drive non-stop through the grounds when you can stop at our visitor's center and visit with some of our residents, dressed for the occasion and ready to greet you with wagging tails? Who knows, you may find a new friend to add to the family!

Please also note that the lights will be turned on at 6:30 pm, but we gladly welcome guests who wish to arrive early to watch the lights come on.

Of course, be sure to linger awhile and warm yourself up. Light refreshments will be available, and as always we will have Twistavant scented candles and Haven

t-shirts for sale. If you wish to make a donation, we will also have our Gift Tree. Gift cards from Walmart, K-Mart, United, Petsmart, Sutherlands, Home Depot, Lowes, or Target are always appreciated by Haven workers and residents, and as always, proceeds from anything you purchase will go directly to the Haven animals! Please help us give our furry friends a Merry Christmas. Hope to see you there!

Photos With Santa, Dec. 5, 6, 12; 11am-4pm

Once again we will be offering another Haven tradition: Pet Photos with Santa Claws! This is your pet's chance to tell Santa what gifts they want to find under the tree! Photos will be available at **Petsmart on Slide Road on: Saturday, December 5th, Sunday, December 6th, and**

Saturday, December 13th, from 11am -4pm. As always, a portion of the proceeds will go directly to the Haven. Even if you are unable to join us for Photos with Santa during the holiday season, please consider volunteering during our regular Petsmart visits. Every 2nd and 5th Saturdays of the month,

from 11am—3pm, we need volunteers to transport adoptable animals, and sit with them at the store. The more animals we take, the more we are able to adopt out! To volunteer with us, send us an email at have-nacs@gmail.com.

Happy Tails

Pet Therapy at The Haven

One goal of the Haven is to promote the bond between humans and animals and to teach the concept of empathy. Recently we hosted a Halloween event for local children, and it was a great success. Our Pets as Pals program is facilitated by Dr. Brenda Wilbanks and coordinators Vanessa Riley and Erin Braddock, and is free of charge. The purpose of Pets as Pals is to provide therapeutic activity for children with special needs, or who have suffered losses in their lives. It also aids in teaching nurturing skills, responsibility, and empathy. Research shows that one determinant of later violent or criminal activity is the degree of empathy that children and young adults feel towards others. By teaching these lessons, the Haven strives to provide a valuable and unique social and community service.

There are also opportunities to work with the elderly in a variety of settings. If you would like to participate in pet therapy as a volunteer, or if you have children to refer, please call 806-763-0092 and leave a message for Dr. Wilbanks, or email us at

HavenACS@gmail.com

As always, here a few stories about animals that have recently touched our hearts with their perseverance.

Faith

Faith arrived at the Haven back in May, severely emaciated and covered in ticks. She was fostered for a few weeks to crate train her, and to get her back on her feet. She pulled through wonderfully and grew into a beautiful girl! She found a home with a wonderful

family in October!

Linda

Linda, an older gal at the Haven (boxer mix), had been with us since she was a 6 month old pup (she is now 12 years old). For whatever reason, she kept being passed over by potential families. However, in October, her luck changed...she found an awesome home to spend the rest of her life in! She is loved very much by her new family!

Cash

Cash, a shepherd mix, had lived at the Haven for several years. He had recurring bouts with non-sarcoptic mange, and was pretty shy when it came to people. However, after several months of working with him and several mange treatments, his luck also changed! Cash was adopted in November by a wonderful young couple!

An Extra Spotlight...

With the month of November known as Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month, we would like to highlight a couple of our senior dogs...perhaps you can provide a loving home to an older animal in need!

Prince and Queenie

Prince and Queenie are shepherd/retriever mixes. They are both 10 years old and have very outgoing and loving personalities. They get along wonderfully with children and other dogs and should be fine around cats. They are in great health and would love a new home for Christmas!

Help Us Get a \$5,000 Grant!

Great news! City Bank of Lubbock is currently sponsoring their annual Community Rewards program. Several non-profit groups in and around Lubbock are eligible to receive a \$5,000 grant from City Bank, and the Haven is on the list! People are asked to cast their vote for their favor-

ite Lubbock organization, and the 10 groups with the most votes between now and December 18th will each receive a \$5,000 grant.

To help the Haven, go to <http://www.citybankonline.com/community-rewards/vote.html>

Click on "Haven Animal Care Shelter," accept the terms and conditions at the bottom of the page, and then click on the big red VOTE! button. The great part is, you can vote EVERY DAY! So please vote as early and often as you are able to help the Haven win this grant.

Christmas Shopping at the Haven...

Wondering what gift to get for that animal lover on your list? Worried that they don't need another I Love My Cat coffee mug? How about the good feeling of knowing they've helped homeless animals? For a small donation, we will send a Christmas certificate to your chosen recipient, telling them about the money donated on their behalf to help injured and abandoned animals. Send in the form below, or see our certificates on display at our Lights at the Haven Open House and Photos With Santa at Petmart (dates & times on front cover). We have a large variety of festive certificates to choose from, stop by and pick some out! Think this would make a good birthday gift as well? Want to send a card in memory of a lost loved one? We also send certificates for birthdays, other holidays, and memorials.

Your donations are ALWAYS appreciated, by the Haven staff and ESPECIALLY our furry friends.

___ I would like to send a Christmas certificate to the recipient(s) of my choice

___ I would like to send a certificate for (please specify occasion and breed of animal of applicable):

___ I don't need any certificates, but would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Haven to help you continue saving the lives of animals.

Name and Address of Recipient:

Your name and phone number:

Please make checks payable to: The Haven Animal Care Shelter

Please mail donations to: The Haven, 4501 N. C.R. 1729, Lubbock, TX 79403

THANK YOU!

A New Volunteer Has Arrived!

We are happy to announce that our volunteer coordinator, Alexis Atwood, (along with her husband, Ryon) has added a new volunteer to our staff! Scout Victoria Atwood was born on Thursday, November 12 at 2:04 pm. She was 7 lb 6 oz and 20 1/2 inches long. Look out Haven dogs and cats...in a short time you'll have a new little girl to play with! Scout

has already been out to visit the Haven a couple times and seems to really like touring around in her stroller!



OUR WISHLIST:

GIFT CARDS!

Clay Cat Litter

Litterboxes

Purina Puppy Chow

Purina Kitten Chow

Friskies Canned Cat Food

Canned Dog Food

(Pedigree or Alpo is fine)

Dog & Cat food bowls

MORE GIFT CARDS!

Rawhides or Dog Treats

Dog Leashes (average size)

Dog Collars (average size)

Cat and dog beds

Straw for winter bedding

Collapsible crates

Igloo houses

Financial contributions

STILL MORE GIFT CARDS!

The Haven Animal Care
Shelter
4501 N. C.R. 1729
Lubbock, TX 79403



Phone: 806-763-0092
Email: havenacs@gmail.com
www.havenacs.org

Merry Christmas!

**Love, Dr. Brenda & Joe Wilbanks, The Haven
Advisory Board, and all of our animals!**

Prsrt Std
US POSTAGE PAID
Slaton, TX
Permit No. 41

The Night Before Dog-mas

author unknown

'Twas the night before Dog-mas, when all through
the pound,
Not a puppy was yelping or playing around.
Our leashes were hung by our kennels with care,
In hopes that St. Bernard would soon find us there.
Chihuahuas were curled up all snug in their beds,
While visions of doggie treats danced in their
heads.
Max in his collar, on somebody's lap,
Had tucked in his tail for a midwinter's nap.
When outside the room there arose such a clatter,
My ears perked right up to hear what was the
matter.
Away to the window I jumped up with glee,
And barked at the shadows that were cast by a
tree.
The glow from the moon changed night into day,
And started me thinking, "Woof, woof, time to
play".
When, what with my puppy-dog eyes did I see,
But a splendid dog-sled, led by doggies like me!
With a regal furred driver, commanding, not stern.

I yelped to the others, "That must be St. Bern!"
More rapid than greyhounds, our saviors they came,
And we barked and we howled and called them by
name.
"There's Duchess! There's King! fat Chance, and
bare Buffy!
On Fido, On Scooter! On Rover, and Scruffy!
Go by the red hydrant and run past those trees!
Nothing can stop you, not even some fleas!"
As puppies at play chase after a stick
And race to their masters so lovely and quick,
So out in the field his canines all flew,
Catching the Frisbees that St. Bernard threw.
And then in an instant I heard at the door
The scratching and clawing of each little paw...
As I pulled in my nose and was turning around,
Through the door St. Bernard came in with a bound!
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his tail,
His wood cask adorned with an icing of hail;
A bag of chew toys he had brought in with him,
And his mouth was turned up in what looked like a
grin.
His eyes, how they twinkled!
His ears flopped, how merry!
His coat shone like crystal, his nose like a cherry!
His big sloppy mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the fur on his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a bone he held tight in his teeth,
And his collar encircled his neck like a wreath.
He had a large face and a furry round belly,
That shook when he barked, like a bowlful of jelly.

He was fluffy and plump, a big cuddly old pooch
And I laughed when I saw him and gave him a
smooch!
A wink of his eye and a wag of his tail;
We knew right away we'd have homes without fail.

He howled not a howl, but went straight to his
deed,
And took down our leashes that soon we would need.
He opened the door and families stood there,
With children, all smiling, and much love to spare.
He leapt to his sled, to his team gave a call,
And away they all flew as if chasing a ball.

But I heard him exclaim, as he chewed on a bone:
"Happy Dog-mas to all and to all a good home!"